XXXVI.—*A new* Heliophobius *from North-eastern Rhodesia.* By Oldfield Thomas.

(Published by permission of the Trustees of the British Museum.)

A re-examination of the mole-rats obtained in the Loangwa Valley and Angoni-land by Mr. S. A. Neave, and referred to *Heliophobius argenteo-cinereus* by Mr. Wroughton, convinces me that the species should be distinguished from the Nyasa form. It may be called

Heliophobius angonicus, sp. n.

Colour and length of fur about as in the Nyasa species. A small white frontal spot present in two specimens out of four.

Skull distinguished from that of *argenteo-cinereus* by its much greater frontal breadth, and the greater development of the postorbital processes, the orbital concavity in front of them being consequently much more marked. Upper profile about as in *argenteo-cinereus*, though the occipital plane is more slanted forwards; a distinct vertical ridge developed in the middle line in all three adult specimens—not present in any of our considerable series of the allied species. Structure of posterior palate as in *argenteo-cinereus*, not as in *spalax*.

Dimensions of the type:—

Head and body 154 mm.; tail 16; hind foot 30.

Skull: condylo-basal length 40·5; condyles to tip of incisors 44·2; zygomatic breadth 32; nasals, length 13, breadth anteriorly 3·3, at posterior third 5·2; interorbital breadth 9·4; tip to tip of postorbital processes 12·4; intertemporal breadth 9·4; least breadth above meatus 18; mastoid breadth 21·3; palatilar length 23; upper tooth-series (alveoli) 8·2.

Hab. East Loangwa Valley and Angoni-land. Type from the Bua River, Central Angoni-land. Alt. 3500 ft. Other specimens from Petauke 2400 ft., the Mkala Country 2600 ft. (*Neave*), and West Nyasa at 12° S., 34° E. (*Lloyd*).

Type. Adult male. B.M. no. 10.9.21.10. Original number 211. Collected 31 May, 1910, by S. A. Neave. Presented by the Entomological Research Committee.

This species is chiefly distinguished from *H. argenteo-cinereus* by the greater development of the postorbital projections, the greatest breadth across these in a full-grown specimen of that species being only 9·6, with interorbital breadth 9, as compared with the 12·4, 9·4 of *angonicus*, these measurements being approximately constant throughout the series of both forms. The little vertical ridge on the occipital plane is present in all three adult specimens of *angonicus*, and in none of the eight available examples of *argenteo-cinereus*.

Of other species, *robustus* of Mpika is much larger, *marungensis*, Noack, of Marungu, is separated geographically by the locality of *robustus*, and has its frontal profile more as in the East African *pallidus*.

XXXVII.—*The* Spalax *of the Grecian Archipelago.*

By Oldfield Thomas.

(Published by permission of the Trustees of the British Museum.)

The National Museum owes to Major T. S. Blackwell, R.A.M.C., now serving his country in the Island of Lemnos, a series of six skulls, three male and three female, of the mole-rat (*Spalax*) of that island, obtained at Mudros West, where these "moles" are said to be very numerous. Besides these excellent skulls, the Museum also contains a skin and imperfect skull sent in 1916 from Mudros East by Capt. H. M. Warrand, to whom we owe our first knowledge of the occurrence of *Spalax* in the island.

On reference to Mehely's elaborate Monograph of the genus, the Lemnos *Spalax* would appear to be referable to the widely distributed *Spalax* (*Mesospalax*) *monticola*, but cannot be identified with any one of the eleven subspecies of that animal which he recognizes, and forms a special race, which may be called

Spalax monticola insularis, subsp. n.

Incisors generally white in front. Molars with coalesced roots, about as in *S. m. anatolicus*. Nasals reaching about as far back as the premaxillary processes, their junction with the frontals unusually complicated.